

Dear Friend,

The [Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act \(GINA\)](#) – which I [wrote](#) about last year when it passed in Congress – goes into effect this week. What does that mean for you? It means that employers cannot use genetic information to make employment decisions. Health insurers cannot use genetic information to deny coverage or increase premiums.

Many [stories](#) illustrate the need for this [law](#). A railroad track maintenance worker was diagnosed with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS). When he returned to work after having surgery, he was told he had to undergo a medical examination and would be fired if he refused. He later learned that the employer was administering genetic tests to workers without their consent to identify a possible genetic predisposition to CTS as a defense to workers compensation claims. He refused to take the exam, and soon after, his employer began disciplinary proceedings to fire him.

Incredible advances in genetic testing offer great value and have greatly expanded our knowledge and understanding of many illnesses. The enactment of GINA ensures that employers cannot use your or your family's genetic make-up against you. As the late Senator Ted Kennedy said of GINA, "It is first civil rights bill of the new century of the life sciences."

### **Does the IRS Owe You Money?**

The Internal Revenue Service is trying to deliver refund checks to more than 3,000 New Jersey taxpayers who have outdated addresses. The IRS can resend the checks, which average \$1,365, once taxpayers correct or update their addresses. If you think you are owed money and have not received a refund, you can check the status of your refund and update your address on [IRS.gov](#) by using the "Where's My Refund" tool or by calling 1-800-829-1954.

To avoid future refund delays, the IRS encourages taxpayers to choose direct deposit when they file their returns.

### **Celebrating Trenton As the U.S. Capital**

For two months in 1784, Trenton was the capital of the United States and the epicenter of the American political world. At the time, Trenton was a small farm town populated by 400 or 500 people when it temporarily served as the nation's capital following the Revolutionary War. Next,

the capital was moved to New York City.

For the next five weeks, there is a 225th anniversary commemoration of this great moment for Trenton and New Jersey. For more information and a calendar of events, please visit [www.trenton1784.org](http://www.trenton1784.org)

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Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT  
Member of Congress

P.S. Just a reminder: I always want to hear from you, but please don't reply to this e-mail. Instead, please email me through my website at [www.holt.house.gov](http://www.holt.house.gov) , or call me at 1-87-RUSH-HOLT (1-877-874-4658) to let me know what's on your mind. Please also note that you may unsubscribe from this list by clicking on the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of this email.